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Marilyn Sargent, Chief Deputy Clerk
United States Court of Appeals
District of Columbia Circuit
333 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 5423
Washington, D.C. 20001-2866

Dear Ms. Sargent:

Pursuant to your letter of March 3, 2000, I am sending this letter after having reviewed the Report insofar as it relates to my client, JoAnn Jones, and after consultation with her.

On page 315, the Report states that consistent with Patrick O'Connor's advice, the Indian Tribes sent "thank you" letters to several individuals including President Clinton. The Report then states as follows:

"Ho-Chunk President JoAnn Jones wrote to President Clinton: 'Thank you for your role in the decision to deny the request to approve the Hudson Casino.'"

The unequivocal and unattributed statement in the Report that Ms. Jones wrote the letter is incorrect. She did not write it and we ask that the Report be corrected before its public release.

At the time she was interviewed, Ms. Jones indicated that the letter was not written by her. She stated that the signature was not hers and offered to provide handwriting samples so that her signature could be compared with the signature that appeared on the letter to verify her denial. There was no follow-up to her offer by the OIC. In addition, the sentence immediately following the quoted one is an incomplete sentence. It states: "Approval of this site would have served to increase the greatly increase the". Ms. Jones would not have written such a letter to anyone, certainly not to the President of the United States. She has been a member of the Wisconsin Bar since 1987, was an Assistant Corporation Counsel for Sauk County for four years, and Tribal Chair for Ho-Chunk for four years after that. All of the above information was brought to the attention of attorneys in the OIC.

In this context, I was astonished to read in the Report that authorship of the incoherent letter was nevertheless attributed to Ms. Jones. Such attribution is not correct and does a disservice to President Clinton, the Ho-Chunk, Ms. Jones and the reading public.